

# Statements of Principle



## Commitment to the Members

Education Minnesota is responsive to the will of its members and is committed to promoting the welfare of each member by pursuing all political, legal, economic and professional support necessary. Education Minnesota will pursue this support through the development and enforcement of collective bargaining agreements, the promotion of local, state, and federal policies and legislative initiatives that ensure equitable compensation, comprehensive health care, due process protection, continuing professional development and appropriate working conditions to ensure a successful career in education.



## Commitment to the Profession

Education Minnesota believes in promoting professional excellence in education. Professional excellence includes recruitment, effective training and retention of diverse education professionals. Education Minnesota believes that all teachers should have robust pedagogical and content-specific training and meaningful and relevant ongoing professional development; that all education support professionals should have relevant, ongoing professional development; and that higher education faculty should have proper credentials. Further, Education Minnesota believes that all school related personnel must be trained and governed under internal mentoring and self-disciplining procedures.



## Commitment to the Learners

Education Minnesota believes in enhancing all areas of education for the learner as well as access to affordable life-long education. Education Minnesota is committed to promoting the successful development of each learner. Learning environments should be safe, welcoming, comfortable, and technologically current for all levels of learners. Within these environments, Education Minnesota is committed to promoting practices and policies that recognize different learners' needs and provide opportunities for family involvement.




## Commitment to Public Education and the Community

Education Minnesota believes public education, early childhood through higher education, is the cornerstone of our social, economic and political structure. The involvement of families and the entire community is essential for the future of public education.

Amended by the Education Minnesota Governing Board April 27, 2025

[www.educationminnesota.org](http://www.educationminnesota.org)

Education Minnesota is an affiliate of the American Federation of Teachers, the National Education Association and AFL-CIO.  6326



THE VOICE FOR PROFESSIONAL  
EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS



## Commitment to the Organization

Education Minnesota believes members have the responsibility to work together to advocate fairly and equitably for all educators as well as promote high standards of professional excellence.



## Commitment to the Labor Movement

Education Minnesota believes individuals are strengthened when they work together for the common good. As education professionals, we improve both our professional status and the quality of public education when we unite and advocate collectively. As part of the larger labor movement, Education Minnesota supports workers' rights to bargain collectively and extend the benefits of unionization to the unorganized.



## Commitment to Racial Equity and Social Justice

Education Minnesota believes that all Minnesotans have a responsibility to make our state better for everyone no matter how much money they make, who they love or how they pray. Regardless of what they look like, how they speak, or where they come from, their voice matters. Education Minnesota believes people can come together—from across racial and economic divisions that favor profits over people—to advocate for the futures we all want for our families.



## Commitment to Indigenous Sovereignty and Truth

Education Minnesota acknowledges that we organize, teach, and advocate on the ancestral and contemporary lands of Indigenous peoples, including the Dakota and Ojibwe nations. We honor the sovereignty of these nations and recognize the enduring impact of colonization. We also acknowledge that the education system—of which our union and its predecessor organizations were a part—was used as a tool of assimilation and harm, including the forced removal of Indigenous children into boarding schools designed to erase their languages, cultures, and identities. Education Minnesota affirms a shared responsibility to foster learning environments rooted in dignity, equity, and truth. Minnesota's schools must be places where all students' cultures are valued and sustained. We commit to working in partnership with tribal nations, leaders, and elders to promote healing and to advance educational practices that honor Indigenous knowledge and contributions.